

**Barbara Anne Sousa**  
Assistant General Counsel

185 Franklin Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110-1585

Phone 617 743-7331  
Fax 617 737-0648  
barbara.a.sousa@verizon.com

October 7, 2003

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary  
Department of Telecommunications & Energy  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
One South Station, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

**Re: D.T.E. 98-57, Phase III**

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

I am writing to request a short extension of the filing date for reply comments in the above proceeding. Verizon Massachusetts ("Verizon MA") specifically requests an extension of one business day, which would change the filing date from Friday, October 10 to Tuesday, October 14, due to the intervening holiday.

I have directly contacted counsel for AT&T Communications of New England and Covad Communications, and neither party has any objection to this brief extension.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Barbara Anne Sousa

cc: Jesse Reyes, Esquire, Hearing Officer  
Paula Foley, Assistant General Counsel  
Michael Isenberg, Esquire, Director – Telecommunications Division  
Attached Service List